

BRIEF NEWS OF THE PAST WEEK

Condensed Dispatches from All Parts of the Two Hemispheres.

Interesting Events from Outside the State Presented in a Manner to Catch the Eye of the Busy Reader—Matters of National, Historical and Commercial Importance.

The Southern Pacific is to enter the transcontinental speed contest.

The volcano of Akutan, Aleutian islands, Alaska, is in violent eruption.

Lord Northcliffe says Germany is actively preparing for war with Great Britain.

Harriman is reported to have had two relapses and his condition causes alarm.

Wealthy capitalists have been arrested for coal land frauds in Wyoming.

Tom Johnson has been nominated for mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, by the Democrats.

It is said President Taft will sustain Secretary Ballinger and that Pinchot will have to go.

Offers for Cook's lectures and books have been doubled by the controversy over who was first at the pole.

Senator Mitchell's heirs have won the suit to escape paying the fine against him by the government just before his death.

The first test of the direct primary in Cincinnati ended in defeat for Taft's brother-in-law, W. C. Herron, candidate for vice mayor.

An agitation is on in Japan for naval expansion.

Clyde Fitch, the American playwright, is dead.

Another slight earthquake shock has been felt in Mexico.

Actors in Chicago have gone on strike for better pay.

The power of the British house of lords is at stake on the tax bill.

Harriman has suffered a relapse and his condition is the cause of alarm.

An aeronaut fell 1,000 feet at Chicago and though badly injured, still lives.

Japan and China have signed a treaty for the settlement of the Manchurian dispute.

An Eastern woman has just had a hat made from the skins of eight rattlesnakes.

The Pressed Steel Car company, of Pittsburgh, has granted the demands of its striking employees.

Estimates of the population of the United States vary greatly, but the average seems about 95,000,000.

Russia now wants a share in the Chinese railway loan.

The deficit of the German imperial government for 1908 is said to amount to \$30,500,000.

Two colored men have been hanged by a mob at Malcolm, Ala., for murdering the sheriff.

Explorer Cook says he has data to convince the most skeptical that he was actually at the North Pole.

Jap grape pickers in California have demanded an increase in wages and may be replaced by Hindus.

A small tempest was caused by an Italian warship stopping while the Atlantic fleet was at target practice.

A sword fish has been caught off the Catalina islands, Cal., which weighed 141 pounds and measured eight feet in length.

More explosives have been found in the bunkers of British war vessels and members of the admiralty are in a state of ferment.

The latest creation in the millinery line is to be known as the Cook hat, in honor of the explorer. It is two feet high covered with black fur, while a white aigrette representing the pole bristles from the top.

China is planning the improvement of her army.

Count Zeppelin will continue preparations to fly to the North Pole.

President Taft says he will probably visit Alaska next summer.

German scientists say the finding of the North Pole is of secondary importance.

The American Locomotive company says it is rushed with order for new equipment.

An Indiana man has just died at the age of 96. He leaves 38 children and had outlived four wives.

Lenmark believes Cook's story of the discovery of the North Pole and will give him a royal welcome.

A serious epidemic is feared in the flood stricken districts of Mexico.

Attorney General Wickersham says if the polar continent is worth holding this government will annex it.

Dispatches from Java say the volcano Smern is in active eruption, causing great havoc. There has also been an earthquake with hundreds of fatalities.

Revolutionary cocked hats are to be worn by women next season.

PEARY DOUBTS COOK.

Says He Was Never Out of Sight of Land in North.

New York, Sept. 8.—The following dispatch was received here early today: "Indian Harbor, Labrador, by wireless, via Cape Ray, Sept. 8.—Melville E. Stone, Associated Press: 'I have nailed the Stars and Stripes to the North Pole. This is authoritative and correct. 'Cook's story should not be taken too seriously. The two Eskimos who accompanied Cook say he went no distance north and not out of sight of land. Other members of the tribe corroborate their story. (Signed) 'Commander Robert E. Peary.'"

Peary Has Added Nothing.

Christiana, Sept. 8.—Captain Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the Northwest passage, said today: "It is quite evident that Peary discovered no trace of Cook in the continually drifting ice. Peary probably, as he planned, made his dash from a more eastern point than Dr. Cook, but many circumstances may have arisen to cause a change."

"Do you think that Peary obtained more valuable scientific results than Cook?" Captain Amundsen was asked. "Probably not," he replied. "They were equally equipped with only absolutely necessary instruments. Geographically, their achievements are of great importance, and it is very important also that the two reports be compared."

POLICEMEN SAVE LIVES.

Heroism Displayed at Hotel Fire in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Sept. 8.—More than 60 persons were saved from death by patrolmen yesterday when a fire that broke out in the Vendome hotel on Pacific and Montgomery avenues in the Barbary coast district, practically gutted the structure, doing damage estimated at \$60,000. In addition to the destruction of the hotel several places adjoining were damaged slightly.

The fire was first discovered by Policeman J. J. Manion. By the time the fire fighters had arrived the flames were eating their way through the first floor of the building. At the risk of their lives a squad of policemen went into the hotel and succeeded in arousing the sleeping occupants and leading them to safety.

When the guests were awakened many of them became panic stricken and refused to go down the stairway, up which great rolls of black oil smoke belched from the burning tanks in the basement. As a result the firemen and policemen were compelled to carry a number of women down extension ladders raised to the windows of the second, third and fourth floors.

Meanwhile the hosemen worked their way into the basement of the hotel and fought the oil fire. Several were overcome but none were injured.

It is believed the fire was caused by an explosion of gas which accumulated in the oil tanks in the basement.

Roosevelt to Dig Canal.

New Orleans, Sept. 8.—Former President Roosevelt is to take charge of the work of pushing the Panama canal to completion, according to a report current in official circles in Panama. This statement was made here today by T. W. Harrison, of Columbus, Harrison is attached to the engineering department of the canal, and has just arrived here. He declared that President Taft was not dissatisfied with the present canal administration, but had already arranged for Colonel Roosevelt to take charge of the work when he returns from his hunting trip in Africa.

Threaten Life of President.

Chicago, Sept. 8.—The police have in their possession today two letters threatening the life of President Taft when he visits Chicago on his Western trip. Extraordinary precautions are being taken. Captain Porter, of the secret service, takes little stock in the letters. He said: "These letters are from cranks and we are not even considering them seriously." Despite this statement it is known that the Chicago police intend to take unusual precautions in guarding the president during his stay in the city.

Deluge in Kansas Capital.

Topeka, Kan., Sept. 8.—This city is flooded today as the result of the heaviest rain ever recorded in this vicinity. The street cars have been put out of commission. The water in the streets is from three inches to three feet in depth. The rain began late yesterday and continued throughout last night and today. At 10 o'clock this morning the official rain gauge showed that 8.7 inches had fallen. All the streams in this section are swollen.

Buys Subtreasury Site.

San Francisco, Sept. 8.—The United States government is now the owner of a plot of ground on the southwest corner of Pine and Sansome streets, where the subtreasury building will be erected. Yesterday afternoon the government officials turned over to the representatives of Virginia Vanderbilt a draft for \$375,000 in payment for the corner. At present the subtreasury is situated on Commercial street.

Bradbury Handling Dute.

San Rafael, Cal., Sept. 7.—William B. Bradbury, the Corte Madre capitalist, who began yesterday a year's incarceration in the penitentiary at San Quentin, commenced work today in the jute mill, after an attempt to escape it on the plea of illness. He slept last night in a cell room with 200 other convicts, including a number of murderers and other desperate criminals.

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

BLOODED SHEEP MOVING.

Big Shipment Sent From Willamette Valley to Colorado.

Albany—Twenty-six hundred and fifty Cotswold bucks were shipped from Albany last week to the Colorado market. They filled 26 single deck cars and a special train was made up here to transport them. It is probably the largest shipment of a single variety of sheep ever made from this state. The sheep were gathered from different points in the Willamette valley by B. J. Hecker, a local stockman. About 1,000 were secured in the vicinity of Albany and the remaining were gathered from the vicinity of McMinnville and other points on the west side. Hecker and three assistants accompanied the sheep train to Denver. There is a big demand in Colorado for blooded Oregon Cotswold bucks and the animals will be sold largely for breeding purposes.

Clover Seed Pays Well.

McMinnville—Heavy clover seed shipments have been made from this place, the threshing of the present season's crop having become pretty general. The best yield of red clover seed yet reported was produced by Isaac Johnson on the Henry Gee farm nine miles southwest of town, averaging seven and one-half bushels to the acre. Hubert Bernard, five miles northwest of town, had 100 acres in clover that averaged over four bushels to the acre, after having been pastured until very late in the summer. Besides, the use of the pasture his land will net him \$26 an acre from the clover seed.

Good Profit in Pears.

Medford—Bartlett pear growers' profit can be best calculated when it is known that J. G. Gore, who has a seven acre orchard of Bartletts near Medford, has already packed seven carloads of fruit from his orchard, and there are fully four more carloads from these seven acres. The shipments will average 460 boxes to the car, which at \$2.20 per box, is \$1,012 per car, or \$11,132 from the eleven carloads, or \$1,590 per acre.

Remarkable Sunflower.

Pendleton—A sunflower bearing on the main stalk 70 buds and blossoms, and on a branch 45 buds, making a total of 115 flowers, which will be produced from the single seed, is growing in the yard of County Recorder Hendley, in Pendleton. While the flowers which have bloomed are not extraordinarily large they are of good size and Mr. Hendley is going to save the seed, hoping that he has produced a plant that will prove valuable.

Wallawa County Wool Leads.

Wallawa—Wallawa county has shipped out about 1,700,000 pounds of wool, the clip of 1909. It netted the growers a full third of a million dollars. Not only this, but the grader who superintended the shipping declared that it was the best wool in the state. The average weight of the Wallawa fleeces this year was over 10 pounds, while fully half of one man's clip averaged 13½ pounds per fleece.

Coo's Apples for Hawaii.

Marshfield—Members of the Coo County Fruitgrowers' association met a few days ago to discuss the matter of marketing apples. It was decided to furnish 1,000 boxes boxes of Gravenstein apples to the Pacific Hawaiian Fruit company. Judge John S. Coke addressed the meeting and said that Coo county in a few years would surpass Hood River the district in fruit production.

Oregon Caves in Reserve.

Salem—The governor's office is in receipt of a copy of a proclamation by President Taft setting aside the country embracing the Oregon caves in the Siskiyou national forest and reserving and withdrawing the same from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws. The proclamation is issued in accordance with an act of congress on the subject passed last winter.

Small Tracts for Fruit.

Monroe—Six hundred acres of the finest orchard land in this section is being platted into small tracts by the orchard company and will be sold out as small homes for families. The orchard company will plant the entire tract to fruit trees, that a uniform system may be maintained and that certain fruits may be grown for convenient markets. The land will not be offered for sale before a year.

Rogue River Pear Crop.

Medford—It is estimated that 300 carloads of pears will be shipped from the Rogue River valley. Cars are now going forward at the rate of eight a day, which will increase in number daily. Nearly all estimates are being exceeded by the actual yield. Fruit is of better quality and greater quantity than previously supposed, and market conditions promise better prices.

Electric Line from Siuslaw.

Marshfield—N. B. Leonard, of Eugene, is trying to interest Coo bay people in the building of an electric line from the Siuslaw to this place. Leonard is an engineer and promoter for the electric line which is being built from Eugene to Florence and the plan is to extend it on to Coo bay, provided the people of this locality and those along the line can be interested.

WATER RIGHTS ACTED ON.

State Board Takes Up Work Assigned by New State Law.

Salem—Applications for the determination of water rights on a number of Western and Southern Oregon streams have been made to the state water board, under the new water law passed at the last session.

The Rogue river rights will be adjudicated, if an application filed recently by A. B. Saylor and F. Y. Allen is granted, which in all probability will be done. This will be one of the largest projects of the kind in the state. Petitions are also in for the determination of the rights of Applegate creek, Little Butte creek, Althouse creek, Quines creek and Williams creek.

All applications except those for the Rogue river and Williams creek waters have been favorably acted upon by the board. The Little Butte probably will be the first one taken up.

H. L. Holgate, superintendent of district No. 1 under the water law, has resigned his position as cashier of a bank at Bonanza and will move to Klamath Falls, where he will devote all his time to the business of the state.

Huge Medford Pears.

Medford—Three Bartlett pears which weighed two pounds and seven ounces each, is the kind of fruit E. B. Waterman grows in his orchard, just south of Medford. The three pears grew in a cluster and Mr. Waterman was allowing them to attain their full size, when he expected to place them in storage for exhibition purposes at the district fair at Ashland in October, but some overcurious sightseer had to make a minute inspection of them and they dropped off. Each of these pears measured 11 inches in circumference.

Peaches Net \$600 Per Acre.

Grants Pass—Seventy-two hundred dollars is not a bad income from only 12 acres of land, and goes to show what advantages can be realized by systematic methods in orchard culture. The crop from 12 acres of peach orchard was recently sold by E. W. Shattuck for \$600 per acre, on the trees. Oregon as a whole offers better inducements for scientific orchard methods than any other state in the union at present.

Salem Secures Glove Factory.

Salem—In accordance with preliminary plans announced some time ago, the Salem board of trade has closed a contract with J. W. Gleason & Sons, whereby a site is donated to the Gleasons for the purpose of erecting thereon a cloth glove and mitten factory. Within five years the glove concern promises to employ 75 people and have a payroll of \$1,500 a month.

Heavy Crops Around Brownsville.

Brownsville—The first of the first fall month finds this section has had magnificent crops and bountiful harvests. Wheat runs from 20 to 40 bushels per acre and oats from 40 to 80 per acre. Hay was a good crop and hops and potatoes promise well.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, 94c; club, 85c; red Russian, 83½c; valley, 88c; 5½c; Turkey red, 85c; forty-fold, 87½c.

Barley—Feed, \$26.50 per ton; brewing, \$27.50.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$12@16 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$17@18; mixed, \$15.50@18.50; alfalfa, \$13.50; clover, \$11@13; cheat, \$13@14.50.

Grain bags, 6½c each.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 34c; fancy outside creamery, 30@34c; per pound; store, 21@22c. Butter fat prices average ½c per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, candled, 30@31c.

Poultry—Hens, 16½c; springs, 17c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, young, 14c; geese, young, 10c; turkeys, 20c; squabs, \$1.75@2 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 11@11½c per pound. Veal—Extra, 9½@10c per pound.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.25 per box; pears, \$1.25@2; peaches, 40c@51 per crate; cantaloupes, \$1.25@1.75; plums, 25@75c per box; watermelons, 1@1½c per pound; grapes, 50c@1.75 per crate; casabas, \$1.50@2 per dozen.

Potatoes—\$1 per sack; sweet potatoes, 3c per pound.

Onions—\$1.25 per sack.

Vegetables—Beans, 4@5c per pound; cabbage, 1@1½c; cauliflower, 75c@1.25 per dozen; celery, 50c@1; corn, 15@20c; cucumbers, 10@25c; onions, 12@15c; parsley, 35c; peas, 7c per pound; peppers, 5@10c; radishes, 15c per dozen; spinach, 5c per pound; squash, 5c; tomatoes, 50@75c per box.

Hops—1909 contracts, 21c; 1908 crop, 14@15c; 1907 crop, 11c; 1906 crop, 8c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c per pound; valley, 23@25c; mohair, choice, 24@25c.

Cattle—Steers, top, \$4.50@4.60; fair to good, \$4@4.25; common, \$3.75@4; cows, top, \$3.40@3.65; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@2.75; calves, top, \$5@5.50; heavy, \$3.50@4; bulls and stags, \$2.75@3.25; common, \$2@2.50.

Sheep—Top wethers, 4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; ewes, ½c less on all grades; yearlings, best, \$4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; spring lambs, \$5@5.25.

Hogs—Best, \$8.50; fair to good, \$8@8.25; stockers, \$6@7; China fats, \$7.50@8.

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